

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /024 W

----- 087807

R 111042Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7585

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 7258

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (CLEVELAND, JAMES C.)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. JAMES C. CLEVELAND
TO THE ROC

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: NOVEMBER 6-8 VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. JAMES C. CLEVELAND WENT VERY SMOOTHLY. BOTH THE CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. CLEVELAND HAD HEAVY SCHEDULES WHICH INCLUDED CALLS ON AMBASSADOR UNGER, PRESIDENT YEN CHIA-KAN, LEGISLATIVE YUAN PRESIDENT NI WEN-YA, AND FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN CHANG-HUAN, A TOUR OF THE PALACE MUSEUM, A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR AND MRS. UNGER, A DINNER HOSTED BY PAO ROBERT CLARKE, AND SEPARATE ADDRESSES BY BOTH THE CONGRESSMAN AND HIS WIFE UNDER USIS AUSPICES. END SUMMARY.

2. ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 7, FOLLOWING A WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION WITH THE AMBASSADOR ON A VARIETY OF QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ROC AND U.S. CHINA POLICY, CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. CLEVELAND, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR UNGER, CALLED ON PRESIDENT YEN. DURING THE CALL CONGRESSMAN CLEVELAND PRAISED THE ROC'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELDS OF ECONOMIC AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PRESIDENT YEN DISCUSSED GROC EFFORTS TOWARDS RAISING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY ON TAIWAN.

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3. GUESTS AT THE LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE UNGERS INCLUDED MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS KAO YU-SHU, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHIEN FU, AND SEVERAL ACADEMICIANS. CONGRESSMAN CLEVELAND LATER SAID HE FOUND HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTER KAO ON THE WORK OF HIS MINISTRY OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.

4. ON THE AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 7 CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. CLEVELAND CALLED ON PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN (LY) NI WEN-YA. DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED ON THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES IN THE STRUCTURE AND WORK OF THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE LY. CONGRESSMAN CLEVELAND ALSO HAD AN OPPORTUNITY BRIEFLY TO OBSERVE THE LY IN SESSION.

5. FOLLOWING THEIR CALL ON NI, CONGRESSMAN CLEVELAND AND WIFE WERE RECEIVED BY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SHEN FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR, ALMOST 45 MINUTES OF WHICH CONSISTED OF A BRIEFING ON THE ROC'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS AND THE DANGERS OF WHAT THE MINISTER REFERRED TO AS THE ABANDONMENT "IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD" OF A STAUNCH FRIEND SHOULD THE U.S. GOVERNMENT NOT STAND FULLY BEHIND THE SINO-US MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY. ABOUT 15 MINUTES WERE DEVOTED TO GENERAL QUESTIONS POSED BY THE CONGRESSMAN.

6. ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 7 PAO ROBERT CLARKE HOSTED A DINNER IN HONOR OF THE CLEVELANDS FOR A GROUP OF 55, WHO INCLUDED TOP-RANKING EXECUTIVES REPRESENTING THE MAJORITY OF THE TAIPEI MEDIA, TWO COLLEGE PRESIDENTS AND TWO DEANS, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHIEN FU, AND EXECUTIVE YUAN SECRETARY-GENERAL (WALTER) FEI HUA. AFTER DINNER THE CONGRESSMAN MADE BRIEF REMARKS ON U.S. PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTIONS AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS ON U.S. POLITICS. REMARKS AND QUESTIONS WERE CORDIAL AND LOW-KEY.

7. ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 8 CONGRESSMAN CLEVELAND MET WITH A GROUP OF TEN YOUNG LAWYERS IN THE PAO'S OFFICE FOR AN INFORMAL AND WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION OF THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OUTLOOK AND DIFFERENCES AND SIMILARITIES IN U.S. AND ROC CONSTITUTIONAL LAW.

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8. AT THE SAME TIME MRS. CLEVELAND ADDRESSED A GROUP OF 50 WOMEN LEADERS ON RECENT CHANGES IN AMERICAN SOCIETY AT A COFFEE IN THE USIS AUDITORIUM HOSTED BY MRS. UNGER. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED 15 MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES, TWO LEGISLATORS, AND A GRAND JUSTICE. MRS. CLEVELAND'S ARTICULATE PRESENTATION WAS VERY WELL-RECEIVED AND BOTH SHE AND SEVERAL PARTICIPANTS COMMENTED AFTERWARDS THAT THE SESSION PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A REWARDING EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

9. PRIOR TO THE CLEVELANDS' DEPARTURE, CONGRESSMAN CLEVELAND HELD AN AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE THAT WAS WELL-ATTENDED BY TAIPEI DIPLOMATIC REPORTERS. THE CONGRESSMAN ANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT US/PRC RELATIONS, THE FORD CABINET CHANGES, AND VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S DECISION NOT TO RUN IN 1976. HE WAS GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE U.S. DOMESTIC SCENE AND HIS REMARKS WERE GENERALLY COMPLIMENTARY TO THE ROC.

10. CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. CLEVELANDS' VISIT WAS GIVEN GOOD COVERAGE BY THE PRESS. PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO HIS DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "THE U.S. HAS A DEEP COMMITMENT TO THE ROC" AND THAT FORD HAS PLEDGED TO HONOR THAT COMMITMENT. HE ADDED THAT "THERE IS ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY, OR AT LEAST THE FEAR, THAT IN FORD'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH THEM (THE PRC), HE WILL BE PERSUADED TO DO SOMETHING WHICH WILL NOT BE TO YOUR BEST INTERESTS. BUT I DON'T THINK THIS WILL HAPPEN."
UNGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TAIPEI07258
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750391-1006
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751156/aaaabysn.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <10 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. JAMES C. CLEVELAND TO THE ROC
TAGS: OREP, (CLEVELAND, JAMES C)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006